



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Office of Grants and Research

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Newsletter

December 2009

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPSS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

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EOPSS Funding Opportunities

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

FFY 2009 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Application for Grant Funding (AGF)

Application Deadline: December 18, 2009

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security announces the availability of approximately \$1,233,720 in funds to continue the practice of having one fiduciary agent to perform the management, administrative, and planning duties associated with all four of the Massachusetts Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council's Federal Fiscal Year 2009 SHSP funding. Eligible applicants include entities that are considered "local units of government" who have, or who can develop and sustain, the capacity to perform the associated management, administration, and planning duties related to SHSP funding on a statewide basis.

For more information: www.mass.gov/eopsfunding (click on Homeland Security) or contact Jeff.Timperi@state.ma.us.

2009-2010 Traffic Enforcement and Equipment Grant

Application Deadline: Open, rolling-enrollment

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Highway Safety Division, announces the availability of approximately \$2,650,000 in federal grant funding in Federal Fiscal Year 2010 for municipal, college and university law enforcement agencies for high visibility enforcement during mobilizations and for the purchase of traffic enforcement-related equipment and materials.

For more information: www.mass.gov/highwaysafety (click on links for the 2009-2010 Traffic Enforcement and Equipment Grant).

Other Funding Opportunities

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

Grants to Expand Substance Abuse Treatment Capacity for Juvenile Treatment Drug Courts

Application Deadline: February 23, 2010

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), is accepting applications for the FY2010 Grants to Expand Substance Abuse Treatment Capacity in Juvenile Treatment Drug Courts. The purpose of this program is to expand and/or enhance substance abuse treatment services in "problem solving" courts which use the juvenile drug court model in order to provide alcohol and drug treatment, recovery support services for substance abuse treatment, screening, assessment, case management, and program coordination to juvenile defendants/offenders. Eligibility is limited to existing individual Juvenile Treatment Drug Courts or their Tribal/State or local governmental proxies.

For more information: <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/2010/TI-10-004.aspx>.

Research and Publications

Tort Bench and Jury Trials in State Courts, 2005

This Bureau of Justice Statistics “Bulletin” provides an overview of tort cases heard by bench or jury trials from a national sample of jurisdictions in 2005. The report includes types of tort cases that go to trial, variations between tort cases adjudicated by judges and juries, and types of plaintiffs and defendants represented in tort trials. The report also examines plaintiff win rates, punitive damages, final award amounts, and trends in tort litigation in the 75 most populous U.S. counties (based on data from 1996, 2001, and 2005).

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/tbjtsc05.pdf>.

HIV in Prisons, 2007-08

Using 2007 and 2008 data from the National Prisoner Statistics and the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, this Bureau of Justice Statistics report presents statistics on female and male prisoners who were infected with HIV or had confirmed AIDS. The report includes the number of AIDS-related deaths in both state and federal prisons, characteristics of inmates who died in state prisons, the circumstances that lead to inmate HIV testing, and a comparison of AIDS rates between prison inmates and the general population.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/hivp08.pdf>.

Jails in Indian Country, 2008

Using data from the 2008 Survey of Jails in Indian Country, this Bureau of Justice Statistics report presents findings on adult and juvenile inmates currently held in a jail, confinement facility, detention center, or other facility operated by tribal authorities or the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The report includes the number of inmates held, type of offense, average daily census, peak population, and admission in June 2008. Summaries of rated capacity, facility crowding, and jail staffing are also included.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/jic08.pdf>.

Juveniles Who Commit Sex Offenses Against Minors

This Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention report examines National Incident-Based Reporting System data on juvenile sex offenders who victimized minors. In an effort to help inform the policy and practice of professionals working to prevent and deter the sexual victimization of youth, this report provides population-based epidemiological information on juvenile sex offending.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/227763.pdf>.

Electronic Crime Scene Investigation: An On-the-Scene Reference for First Responders

Intended as a quick reference for first responders, this National Institute of Justice flipbook quickly details how to identify, preserve, collect, and secure evidence at an electronic crime scene. The flipbook is intended to be a companion piece to the *Electronic Crime Scene Investigation: A Guide for First Responders, Second Edition*.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/227050.pdf>.

Conferences and Trainings

Department of Defense Cyber Crime Conference

January 22-29, 2010 in St. Louis, MO

Sponsored by the United States Department of Defense Cyber Crime Center, this conference will address both current and newly evolving trends in cyber crime. Topics will include: intrusion investigations; cyber-crime law; digital forensics; information assurance; and the research, development, testing, and evaluation of digital forensic tools.

For more information: <http://www.dodcybercrime.com/10CC/>.

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) 62nd Annual Scientific Meeting

February 22-27, 2010 in Seattle, WA

Sponsored by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, this annual meeting brings together a wide range of forensic specialists to present current information, research, and updates to the field. The conference will feature scientific papers, breakfast seminars, workshops, and other special events. Topics will include gunshot residues, toxicology, determining manner of death, reconstruction of death scenes, forensic multimedia analysis, advances in forensic DNA analysis, and investigation of deaths in custody.

For more information: http://www.aafs.org/default.asp?section_id=meetings&page_id=aafs_annual_meeting.

National Fusion Center Conference

February 23-25, 2010 in New Orleans, LA

Sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Department of Justice's Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and Office of the Program Manager, this conference will provide training, technical assistance, and other support on issues directly affecting fusion centers. The conference will offer both plenary and breakout sessions and will feature topics such as funding and sustainment, developing an intelligence capability, security and private issues, protecting sensitive case material, fusion center resources, and integration efforts.

For more information: <http://www.iir.com/registration/fusioncenter/default.html>.

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 2010 Annual Meeting: "Beyond Our Boundaries: The Inclusivity of Criminal Justice Sciences"

February 23-27, 2010 in San Diego, CA

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences' Annual Meeting provides a forum for approximately 2,000 educators, researchers, practitioners, and students to discuss emerging issues in research, policy, education, and practice within the field of criminal justice.

For more information: http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_668_2915.cfm.

National Victim Assistance Academy (NVAA)

February 28, 2010-March 05, 2010 in Portland, OR

Sponsored by the Office for Victims of Crime, the NVAA offers education and skill-based classroom trainings for professionals who assist victims and survivors of crime around the nation. The academy consists of three tracks: foundation-level training; the professional skill-building institute; and the leadership institute.

For more information: <https://www.ovcttac.gov/nvaa/>.

News

The following are excerpts from newspaper articles regarding public safety topics.

Senate to Take Up Crime Records

***The Boston Globe*, November 18, 2009**

According to *The Boston Globe*, the state Senate plans to vote on wide-ranging criminal justice legislation that would make it easier for inmates to get jobs after their release from prison. The 30-page bill, which loosens the state's criminal offender record information system, or CORI, has been pushed by advocates who argue that former prisoners are often unable to get work because potential employers check their records and refuse to hire them. The legislation would limit employers' access to the criminal record of potential employees. A separate provision would let nonviolent drug offenders apply for parole before serving the minimum amount of time required for the crime under stringent drug laws. Inmates released from prison would also be subject to post-release supervision for up to two years, if they are not already on parole or probation.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/11/18/senate_to_take_up_crime_records/.

Stimulus \$ for Police, Fire

***The Telegram*, November 23, 2009**

The Worcester Police Department will sidestep the layoff of 25 police officers with a share of the \$17.8 million in stimulus money the Governor has targeted for public safety departments throughout the state, according to *The Telegram*. Worcester is in line for \$1.9 million for police – money that will spare the layoffs of 25 officers whose positions were not funded beyond Nov. 30, 2009. The money is part of the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that is administered by the state. In Massachusetts, 35 police departments and 85 fire departments will get a piece of the \$17.8 million that Gov. Deval L. Patrick has earmarked for public safety hiring and retention.

Access full text at: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20091123/NEWS/911239986>.

Violent Crime Down in Boston

***The Boston Globe*, November 25, 2009**

According to *The Boston Globe*, violent crime has dipped dramatically in Boston, with homicides on a pace to decrease by 20 percent by year's end, an encouraging trend that law enforcement officials and community activists are working to preserve during the often volatile holiday season. The drop is a continuation of the steady decline that began after 2006, when the number of homicides reached 75. Police and city activists who work with youth on the streets say the decrease is a result of several factors: better communication between law enforcement officials and community groups, growing weariness of violence from people in the city's historically troubled neighborhoods, and a return to crime-fighting initiatives that were successful in the 1990s, when the city experienced a sharp fall in the number of homicides.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/11/25/reports_of_violent_crime_dip_in_boston/.

Text-A-Tip Program Helping Springfield Police Fight Crime

***The Republican*, December 6, 2009**

In the three months since local law enforcement launched a text-messaging system for anonymous tips, the system has shown it can be an effective tool to fight crime, reports *The Republican*. Text-A-Tip, a joint operation of the Hampden District Attorney's Office and sheriff's department and the Springfield and Holyoke police, allows people to send in anonymous tips via the text-message function on their cell phones. Officials say that in its first three months, Text-A-Tip has generated about 50 legitimate tips. That works out to an average of about four per week. Officials say the challenge now is to persuade the public to use that tool more often.

Access full text at: http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/12/text-a-tip_program_helping_spr.html.

Announcement

Perceptions of Racial and Ethnic Overrepresentation in the Juvenile Justice System Study

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) has prepared a short survey for people who work at least partly in the juvenile justice system. The goal of this survey is to gather information that will provide Massachusetts with a better understanding of the racial and ethnic disparities in the Massachusetts juvenile justice system. The results will be used by the JJAC to advise the Governor and Legislature on juvenile justice issues, garner insight into how best to spend federal discretionary funds in Massachusetts, and ensure Massachusetts' compliance with the mandates of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Please note that the surveys are confidential and that no identifying information will be shared.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Polk, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, at 617-725-3364 or andrew.polk@state.ma.us.

To access the survey:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=rpku_2fpNGYzWlvy4ceeRkA_3d_3d.

i95travelinfo.net Spells Relief for Holiday Travelers on the East Coast

Just in time for the hectic holiday travel season, travelers from Maine to Florida this holiday season will be able to save time and better plan their trips thanks to a web site that provides them with real-time traffic information and estimated drive times for roadways in and between major metropolitan areas along the East Coast. Recently expanded to include 3,000 additional miles of roads covering 24 metropolitan areas along the I-95 Corridor, <http://www.i95travelinfo.net> offers travelers speed and congestion information on the I-95 corridor, including I-95, the beltways surrounding each major city, and all associated routes that together make up the corridor.

For more information: <http://www.i95coalition.net/i95/Projects/ProjectDatabase/tabid/120/agentType/View/PropertyID/317/Default.aspx> or <http://www.i95travelinfo.net>.

Contact Information

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us

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